(c) whether following the example set by a number of Asian nations, it is proposed to regulate telecasts of such advertisements?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal at a very formative stage.

Proposal for FM Radio/HPTV Stations at Junagarh

693. SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal was sent by the Government of Gujarat to the Central Government for establishment of FM Radio station and a HPTV station at Junagarh in 1996;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the proposal has been dropped for the present;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the proposal is being included in the next five year plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) A proposal for setting up of 5 KW FM Transmitter, MP Studios, Dubbing Room, Receiving facilities, Staff Quarters, etc. and a High Power TV Transmitter has been included in the draft 9th Five Year Plan.

TV/Radio Stations in North-Eastern Region

694. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are fewer TV and radio stations in North-eastern region as compared to its needs; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/contemplated to set up more such stations keeping in view the ethnic and cultural multiplicity of the region?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) TV Studio Centres are presently functioning at all North Eastern state capitals and also at Silchar, Dibrugarh and Tura. Besides, there is a Regional Programme Production Centre at Guwahati. For relay of primary channel (DD I) and Metro Channel (DD II) programmes 88 and 9 Transmitters respectively of varying power are functioning in North Eastern States.

It is the constant endeavour of the Government to improve TV and Radio services in the entire country with special emphasis to North-Eastern States. Presently, 32 TV Transmitter projects and 14 All India Radio projects are under various stages of implementation in North Eastern States. Satellite uplinking facilities are also presently available at Guwahati and are under implementation at the remaining stations in North Eastern region.

Loss suffered by Doordarshan due to NDTV

695. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CBI has seized files relating to NDTV as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 25th April, 1998;